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NEWSLETTER

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES
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ACLS PRIZES FOR DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARSHIP
IN THE HUMANITIES

The American Council of Learned Societies announces a program of ten Prizes of \$10,000 each, to be awarded during the coming year to scholars in recognition of their distinguished contributions to humanistic learning. No applications for these awards may be made, but nominations from learned societies, institutions, and individuals are welcomed. Announcement of the Prizes will be made early in 1959.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION AND ACLS INTERESTS

In the September 1958 issue of the *Newsletter*, this title was used as a heading for the announcement of two programs of the Federal Government which are expected, in the long run, to involve some of the activities of the ACLS on a national level as well as to prove of importance to faculty members and administrators of the colleges and universities of the United States. During the months to come this publication plans to report the steps being taken toward their implementation.

The National Defense Education Act (PL 85-864)

The general plan for establishing the administrative machinery for the various titles of the act has been to assign specific responsibilities to existing divisions of the Office of Education. The Division of Higher Education,

under Assistant Commissioner Lloyd E. Blaunch, is to administer four titles. A Financial Aid Branch has been set up in this division, and the following staff members have been designated or borrowed:

Director: Homer D. Babbidge, Jr., formerly lecturer in American Studies and director of financial aids at Yale University; formerly special assistant to the Commissioner of Education and assistant to the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare;

Title II—Student Loans: Peter P. Muirhead, director of the New York Regents Scholarships and Examinations Program since 1950, and executive secretary of the New York Higher Educational Corporation which established the New York Student Loan Program (on leave);

Title IV—Graduate Fellowships: J. P. Elder, professor of Greek and Latin and dean, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University (on leave);

Title VB—Counselling and Guidance Institutes: Ralph Bedell, specialist for higher education programs, U. S. Office of Education, and formerly professor of psychology at Nebraska and American Universities; secretary-general of the South Pacific Commission (on detail);

Title VI—Language Development: Kenneth W. Mildenerberger, associate secretary of the Modern Language Association of America, director of the Foreign Languages Program of the MLA, and member of the ACLS Committee on Language Programs; formerly taught English at New York University and Queens College (on leave).

The ACLS is intimately connected with developments under Title VI in that it has been asked to conduct a survey of language needs and facilities for the Office of Education. The survey is to collect and summarize what can be found about the needs of government, business, and education for competence in modern languages, and about the existing or projected facilities for developing language-and-area competence. Attention is on the languages and areas "not commonly taught"—all languages with the exception of French, Spanish, German, and Italian. This survey is a prerequisite for the presentation to Congress by the Office of Education of a request for appropriations as authorized under the enabling legislation. The survey is to last three months, beginning November 1, 1958, and will be under the general direction of W. Freeman Twaddell of Brown University. Dr. Twaddell is to be assisted by a Steering Panel with the following membership:

Leroy James Benoit, United States Information Agency
J Milton Cowan, Cornell University
Fredrik de Coste, National Foreign Trade Council, Inc.
Mortimer Graves, Executive Director Emeritus, ACLS

Howard Sollenberger, Foreign Service Institute, Department
of State

Julian Street, Jr., United States Steel Corporation

Progress on developments under the other titles was reported at a joint meeting between the Committee on Relationships of Higher Education to the Federal Government (American Council on Education) and representatives of the U. S. Office of Education.

Under Title II — Student Loans — it was stated that a pamphlet is now being prepared by the Office of Education to describe the operations of an effective loan program. Upon completion, copies are to be distributed to institutions wishing to participate in the Federal program. Application forms for institutions and specimen forms for students are also in preparation. It is hoped that the program may be put into effect during the second term of the current academic year.

A major objective under Title IV — Graduate Fellowships — is to increase the geographical distribution of centers of graduate work well qualified to train prospective college teachers. As soon as possible, a letter is to be sent to an appropriate list of college and university presidents offering guidance in preparing proposals for programs under this title. No decision is to be made on any individual application prior to January 1, 1959. It is planned that the first recipients of Federal fellowships will enter graduate schools in the fall of 1959. Consideration is presently being given to a plan to limit the fellowships during the first year to candidates for the Ph.D. degree. Programs of professional schools may be included, but these must be restricted to those having the definite purpose of producing college teachers.

Counselling and Guidance Institutes — provided under Title VB — are to be operated under contracts with selected colleges and universities and are to be devised for two groups: persons already employed as counsellors, and teachers who wish to undertake counselling in the public schools. The staff of the Office of Education is working on a survey to determine national needs for counselling in the public secondary schools.

Title VII of the Act, concerning research in new media of instruction, is to be administered by the Division of Research of the Office of Education rather than by the Division of Higher Education. On October 17, 1958 the Office announced its preparedness to consider applications for Federal funds to support research projects in educational television, radio, motion pictures, and related communications media. An initial appropriation of \$500,000 is available to get this portion of the program under way. Two specialists have already been invited to work with Roy M. Hall, Assistant Commissioner for Research: Anna L. Hyer, Director of the Division of Audio-visual Instruction, National Education Association, and Clarence Walter Stone, Professor of Library Science, University of Illinois.

*The Dingell Bill (PL 480)**

The pertinent subsections of this bill appeared in the September issue of the *Newsletter*. The *Information Bulletin* of the Library of Congress (Vol. 17, No. 45, October 27, 1958) contains a report on the first of these subsections (104-n), and the *Newsletter* has been granted permission to reprint this item.

"It is the desire of the Library of Congress to keep the library profession as up-to-date as possible on its activities under PL 480. The situation, however, is in such a state of flux at the moment that no firm picture can be drawn. Nonetheless, it is believed that the following information may be helpful in understanding the present state of affairs.

"Those who are inadequately informed about United States-owned foreign currency under PL 480 (loosely and erroneously referred to as 'counterpart funds') may have misleading ideas about the immediate and long-range possibilities for action under subparagraph (n). First of all, no program is possible until the Congress appropriates foreign currency. On October 20, the Library of Congress submitted to the Bureau of the Budget a supplementary request for support of operations in fiscal 1959, as well as budget estimates for fiscal 1960. The character of these requests cannot be set forth here in detail because such information is regarded as administratively confidential until published in the President's Budget. It is important to emphasize, however, that the foreign currencies under this program are available only in certain countries; that funds are not available, in general, in countries with the most advanced economic systems; and that the need for funds for the various purposes set forth under Section 104 is so great that the Library of Congress's program is by no means assured of the necessary support in the most desirable areas of operation because of other competing needs. As of this writing, there is a myriad of questions to be answered and problems to be solved before the program can be implemented, even if money is appropriated. It is hoped that acquisition, cataloging, and related operations can be set up under direct Library of Congress supervision in some foreign countries. In other places, work may have to be done under contractual arrangements with libraries or learned societies. If it is impossible to establish activities in certain areas, such as the Far East and the Arab world, where funds are not readily available, ways must be sought for obtaining materials from such areas. Such arrangements may run into obstacles in the form of balance of trade and currency restrictions in various countries.

"This discussion may give the impression that there are insuperable obstacles in the way of the program. This is by no means true, but it

* Incorrect information from Washington, D. C. resulted in the erroneous reference in the September 1958 *Newsletter* to PL 85-835 as containing these provisions. Actually, they appeared in PL 85-931, and represent an amendment to PL 480 which had been passed in 1953.

is the Library of Congress's desire that the readers of the *Information Bulletin* comprehend the reasons for delay in getting the program started and realize the magnitude of this operation.

"There is undoubtedly great interest in knowing the libraries and research centers in the United States which will be recipients of library materials under this program. These have not been determined, but it can be said that it is not believed that it will be possible at the outset to deposit copies in more than the leading libraries and research centers. The number of such recipients will probably vary depending on the areas of origin of materials. For example, the recipients of material from South Asia would probably be only three or four in number initially; whereas the recipients of Soviet materials might run as high as twenty-five or thirty, if money is appropriated and allotted and it is possible to operate effectively in desired places.

"The Library has not yet established any formal machinery for consultation with libraries and research centers; however, one important preliminary meeting was held on October 1 with representatives of certain Federal agencies as well as of certain learned societies, such as the American Council of Learned Societies, the Social Science Research Council, and the Association of Research Libraries. It is expected that this consultation will be widened, and with this in view the American Library Association has been asked to designate a representative. The potential range of organizations and agencies to be consulted is so great that from a practical point of view it is essential that representation be consolidated wherever possible."

NEW PUBLICATIONS

The Comparative Study of Religions, by Joachim Wach. Edited with an Introduction by Joseph M. Kitagawa. Columbia University Press. 1958. \$4.50. This volume is the fourth to be published in the series of Lectures on the History of Religions for which the American Council of Learned Societies, through its Committee on the History of Religions, assumed responsibility in 1936.

"The Comparative Study of Religions" was the title which Wach had chosen originally for his Barrows lectures in India in the autumn of 1952. These lectures were repeated at various academic institutions in the United States during 1954-1955. When Joachim Wach died in 1955, he was in the midst of completing the manuscript for this book. Final editorial work on the volume was done by Joseph M. Kitagawa who also added an Introduction, "The Life and Thought of Joachim Wach."

The ACLS announces that arrangements have been completed whereby Columbia University Press will handle all ACLS publications, including shipping and billing. Hereafter all publications formerly handled by the

Council (Newsletter, Vol. IX, No. 1, pp. 26-33), with the exception of the Newsletter and the Annual Report, should be ordered from the Press.

A Kurdish Grammar, by Ernest N. McCarus. Program in Oriental Languages, Publication Series B—Aids—Number 10. 1958. \$3.00.

This study is a description of the Kurdish of the city of Sulaimaniya, Iraq. Kurdish is a member of the Indo-Iranian branch of the Indo-European family of languages. Kurdish dialects cover an area embracing parts of eastern Turkey, Soviet Armenia, northern Syria, northern Iraq, and western Iran, as well as Khorasan. Of all the Kurdish dialects in Iraq, that of Sulaimaniya seems to enjoy the greatest cultural prestige, as is acknowledged by speakers of other dialects. It is the dialect that the central government in Baghdad has chosen to be used in Kurdish textbooks for elementary schools throughout Iraqi Kurdistan, and for all Kurdish radio broadcasts from Radio Baghdad.

An Outline of the Structure of Shilha, by Joseph R. Applegate. Program in Oriental Languages, Publication Series B—Aids—Number 11. 1958. \$2.00.

Shilha, which is spoken in southwest Morocco, is one of the most widely distributed of the Berber languages. It is still the predominant language in rural areas, though Arabic has replaced it in the towns. The presence of Arabic has influenced the dialect, as can be seen from the large number of Arabic loan-words, and also from the fact that there are two methods of counting, one using native Shilha words and the other using Arabic words. The Shilha numerals are used generally by women and occasionally by men in the rural areas, while Arabic numerals are used almost exclusively by men in business transactions. Traces of Spanish and French influence can also be found.

Glossary of Mongolian Technical Terms, by Frederick H. Buck. 1958. Program in Oriental Languages, Publication Series B—Aids—Number 13. \$2.00.

This Glossary contains approximately 4,500 entries, covering such subjects as political administration, economics, science, railways, stock-farming, agriculture, medicine, foreign affairs, military matters, and miscellaneous items.

FELLOWSHIP IN GEOGRAPHY

The Society of Women Geographers is offering one of its Adèle Moffat Fellowships of \$2,700 to a young woman to do graduate work in Geography at Columbia University for the academic year 1959-1960. To qualify for the Fellowship, a student must have a B.A. degree or its equivalent and be eligible and acceptable for admission to Columbia University under the Graduate Faculties. A good background in the social sciences and in general

geology or geography is desirable, but candidates who have given evidence of superior ability in other fields are also eligible. Application must be made on the Columbia University fellowship application form with an indication that it refers specifically to the Society of Women Geographers Fellowship in Geography. Closing date, February 20, 1959. Address correspondence to Office of University Admissions, 322 University Hall, Columbia University, New York 27, New York.

THE FOUR COUNCILS

Persons with the frequent responsibility of explaining the place of the four national councils (American Council of Learned Societies, American Council on Education, National Academy of Sciences - National Research Council, and Social Science Research Council) in the pattern of education in the United States will welcome "The Four Councils", an article by Joseph C. Kiger, associate professor of history at the University of Alabama. Dr. Kiger's article appears in *The Educational Record* for October 1958 (Vol. 39, No. 4, pp. 367-373).

LA SOCIÉTÉ EUROPEENNE DE CULTURE

La Société Européenne de Culture was formed at the close of the last war, when civilization, especially in Europe, was threatened by national hatreds and class conflicts, which dragged even the most enlightened circles and the best educated minds into hostile camps. To meet this danger intellectual leaders from all Europe banded together to assure each other of their basic solidarity and to organize a public defense of their general cultural concerns. This Society now has well over 1,300 members in forty-five countries. Among its early and influential members were: Karl Barth, Bernard Berenson, P. M. S. Blackett, Benjamin Britten, Louis de Broglie, Martin Buber, Le Corbusier, Benedetto Croce, Waldo Frank, André Gide, Walter Gropius, Jorge Guillén, Julian Huxley, Carl Jung, Thomas Mann, Gregorio Marañón y Posadillo, François Mauriac, Henry Moore, Lewis Mumford, Martin Niemöller, Picasso, Alfonso Reyes, J.-P. Sartre, Albert Schweitzer, Paul Tillich, and Jean Wahl. From its origins the membership was more than European and it aspires to become a world-wide fellowship for promoting regular international colloquies and cultural programs.

It now has an American branch, presided by Lewis Mumford, whose function it is to keep American arts and sciences, philosophy and religion, in closer and constant touch with Europe, to participate in international dialogue on general cultural matters of concern, and to strengthen human civilization in its basic unity and on its highest levels.

In March 1956 the Sixth General Assembly was held in Venice. Intellectuals from the Eastern as well as the Western countries of Europe met to discuss their common interest in promoting a political climate favorable to a free and fruitful exchange among leaders in public affairs, arts, and sciences, an open sharing of ideas and ideals. The results of this meeting were

sufficiently encouraging to make possible the Seventh General Assembly, which was again held in Venice, August 23-28, 1958. The Eastern attendance this year was limited to six, those invited from the USSR being prevented from coming because they could not guarantee that the discussions would not be political. As it turned out, the discussion this year was decidedly not political. Instead of making the discussion of East-West cultural relations a subject-matter of the program, the Assembly met in three sections, one on literature and philosophy, one on the arts, and one on the sciences, in each of which sections Eastern and Western members jointly discussed basic cultural problems.

The Plenary Sessions were devoted to a discussion of the attitudes and actions appropriate for men of letters, arts, and sciences with reference to (a) the atomic bomb, and (b) the cinema. Both "explosive" inventions were discussed in lively fashion; the proceedings will be published in *Comprendre*, the Society's yearbook.

The President of the Society now is Giovanni Ponti; its Secretary-General is Umberto Campagnolo; and its American Vice-President (one of five) is Lewis Mumford. Next year's General Assembly will be held in Amsterdam. For further information regarding membership and meetings, address: Professor Umberto Campagnolo, 52 Piazza San Marco, Venice.

**ACLS AMERICAN COUNCIL
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